

NEWS RELEASE

IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

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<u>IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD APPROVES LOANS</u> <u>FOR PAIR OF IDAHO WATER PROJECTS</u>

For Immediate Release Boise, Idaho – June 17, 2002 For Media Information Contact: Dick Larsen - (208) 327-7933

The Idaho Water Resource Board approved a pair of loans totaling \$278,525 for water projects in southwestern and southern Idaho at its regular meeting June 14 in Rexburg, the Board announced today.

The Board reduced one loan request and turned down three requests for water project grants due to current limited availability of funds.

The two loans approved by the Board were:

- A loan of \$120, 000 to the Wilderness Ranch Homeowners Association (Boise County between Boise & Idaho City) for planning and design of a new surface water treatment plant; and
- A loan of \$158,525 to the Oakley Valley Water Company (Cassia County north of Oakley) for a project to connect two water systems.

The Board also approved changes to local committee rental pool procedures for Water District 1. The new procedures provide for private lessee agreements between a specific assignor and a lessee.

The private leases may be for one or more years and involve only storage water for irrigation use above Milner Dam.

Updates on comprehensive state water planning efforts on the Lower Boise and South Fork Clearwater as well as a report on the Dworshak operation plan were discussed.

Board members also reviewed policies regarding both planning and financial programs. The policies were an outgrowth of special work sessions held during the Board's two previous meetings. The policies will be used to guide the operation of the two programs..